

# **Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Advisory Committee**

## **Recommendations for Management Plan Consideration**

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**Background:** In order to preserve the nationally significant biological, cultural, recreational, geological, educational and scientific values found in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains and to secure now and for future generations the opportunity to experience and enjoy the magnificent vistas, wildlife, landforms and natural and cultural resources of these mountains, the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress agreed by unanimous consent to the establishment of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument (Monument). The passage of this legislation and the signing into law by President Clinton on October 24, 2000 established a 272,000 acre National Monument encompassing 86,400 acres of Bureau of Land Management lands, 64,400 acres of U.S. Forest Service lands, 23,000 acres of Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians lands, 8,500 acres of California Department of Parks and Recreation lands, 34,500 acres of other State of California agencies lands, and 55,200 acres of private land.

This bipartisan effort established the first congressionally designated National Monument to be jointly managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-351) further established a Monument Advisory Committee (Committee) “To advise the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture with respect to the preparation and implementation of the management plan for the conservation and protection of the National Monument...”

**Monument Advisory Committee Composition:** As specified in the Public Law 106-351, the fifteen Committee members appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture, shall, to the extent practicable, represent a diverse array of community interests. In addition, to be eligible for appointment to the Committee, a person must be qualified through education, training, knowledge, or experience to give informed advice regarding an industry, discipline, or interest specified in the Committee’s charter; have

demonstrated experience or knowledge of the geographical area in which the National Monument is located; and have demonstrated a commitment to collaborate in seeking solutions to a wide spectrum of resource management issues.

The following individuals met the criteria for serving on the Committee and have generously contributed their time and experience (without compensation) over the past year to develop this report and its recommendations:

- Frank Bogert, former Mayor, City of Palm Springs
- Robert Brockman, Community Development Director, City of Rancho Mirage
- Buford Crites, Council member and former Mayor, City of Palm Desert
- Bary Freet, Palm Springs Fire Chief, resident of Cathedral City
- Barbara Gonzales Lyons, Vice Chairman, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Larry Grafton, Senior Planner, City of Indian Wells
- Bill Havert, Director, Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy
- Terry Henderson, Council member, City of La Quinta
- Edward Kibbey, Building Industry Association, local building organization
- Bob Lyman, Regional Office Manager, County of Riverside
- Jeffrey Morgan, Sierra Club, local conservation organization
- Dr. Allan Muth, Director, University of California Deep Canyon Desert Research Center
- Rob Parkins, General Manager, Winter Park Authority
- Ruth Watling, Chair, Pinyon Community Council
- Gary Watts, District Superintendent, California State Parks

**Meeting Structure:** All Committee meetings, including field examinations and working groups, were open to the general public, including representatives of the news media. A notice of each Committee meeting was published in the Federal Register and distributed to the news media serving the vicinity of the Monument in advance of such meeting. The Committee met seven times during 2002 and, additionally, many Committee members attended and participated in a number of field trips and smaller Working Group meetings during the year. These Working Groups were formed to discuss and develop specific recommendations for the Committee's

consideration on specific issues, including cultural issues, land acquisition priorities, planning matters, recreation/trails/access concerns, and geology.

The Committee selected Mr. Edward Kibbey as its Chairperson and Monument staff provided Committee support and meeting logistic assistance. The City of Palm Desert City graciously hosted all but one Committee meeting in its City Hall. Throughout the process, a website providing assorted project information and Committee meeting agendas, materials, and minutes was maintained.<sup>1</sup> In addition, at each meeting, time was provided on the agenda to allow members of the general public to address the Committee.

**Overview of Committee's Process:** The Committee's deliberations touched on a wide variety of issues and topics related to the Monument. To aid in refining the Committee's advice, Monument staff prepared "Issue Statement" worksheets that presented a number of topic areas which had been identified during the public scoping process and during early Committee discussions. Using these worksheets, the Committee answered a number of questions for each topic:

- Who needs to be involved in the discussion of this topic?
- What is the current situation and is the current strategy working?
- What additional information is needed for the text of the management plan and to brainstorm strategies and alternatives?
- What strategies or range of alternative action/methods are needed to address the topic?

At the November 23, 2002 meeting, the Committee used the completed worksheets to consolidate over twenty issues topics into twelve concise statements and began



Committee members deliberating recommendations

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.ca.blm.gov/palmsprings/advisory\\_committee.html](http://www.ca.blm.gov/palmsprings/advisory_committee.html)

refining the corresponding recommended actions for each topic area. Then, at the December 7, 2002 meeting, the Committee reviewed and revised the issue statements and their corresponding recommended actions to ensure that all advice is as specific as possible. By doing so, the Committee hopes that the Monument staff will incorporate as many of the recommendations provided as possible into the Monument management plan. The final twelve topics and corresponding questions the Committee addressed are:

1. Land Acquisition: What strategy is in place for the prioritization of land acquisition within the Monument?
2. Trail and Structure Maintenance: How will the Monument maintain motorized and non-motorized trails and structures within the Monument?
3. Interpretation: How will the Monument provide education, interpretation, and information to allow for the use and enjoyment of the Monument?
4. Multiple Use & Resource Protection: How can the Monument provide multiple recreation opportunities while balancing the protection and preservation of cultural, biological, geological, educational, and scientific resources?
5. Visitor Tracking & Management Updates: How will the Monument monitor current and future use and modify management strategies as appropriate?
6. Private Property and Access: How will the Monument address private property rights?
7. Cultural Resources: How will the Monument identify, protect, preserve and restore cultural resources while providing for recreation opportunities and management of resources? How can the Monument work to improve coordination and consultation with local tribes regarding management and tribal use of lands within the Monument? How can the Monument develop a common understanding and respect for cultural resources including ethnographic, archaeological and historic resources?
8. Biological Resources: How will the Monument management plan address biological and ecological resources?
9. Highway 74: How can the Monument provide safe passage for vehicles on Highway 74 through the Monument while also providing safe interpretive opportunities along the route?

10. Management of Pests: How can the Monument manage and control pests, including exotic and invasive species and noxious weeds?
11. Public Safety: How will public safety be coordinated within the Monument?
12. Utilities and Rights-of-Ways: How will the Monument address utilities and rights-of-ways?

**Final Recommended Advice for Consideration and Analysis in Management Plan**: The Committee's detailed recommendations for addressing each of the issue areas are presented to the USFS/BLM for consideration during development of the Monument management plan. For each topic, specific advice is sorted into one of two categories: 1) recommendations Committee members unanimously supported; and 2) recommendations for which consensus was not achieved. While the Committee strived to reach consensus on all advice, members felt strongly that no one individual's suggestions should be excluded from this report.

The Committee recognizes that these recommendations are not decisions or proposed actions from the USFS or BLM and that some of the recommendations and advice provided may not be addressed in the jointly prepared BLM/USFS management plan given the scope of related planning efforts currently in progress (e.g., Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (MSHCP/NCCP), San Bernardino National Forest Plan Revision, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indian's Habitat Conservation Plan, and the Coachella Valley California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment). However, the Committee believes strongly that the recommendations provided cover a range of important topics that must be addressed in order to adequately care for the Monument and the many citizens who live, work, and recreate within and surrounding the area.

## ISSUE STATEMENT #1 - LAND ACQUISITION

### What strategy is in place for the prioritization of land acquisition within the Monument?

#### *Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 1.1. BLM and USFS should continue to coordinate land acquisition with other entities through the umbrella of the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy. In addition to participating in the bi-monthly Conservancy meetings, BLM and USFS should meet semi-annually with representatives of all the local, state, Tribal, and non-profit entities engaged in land acquisition in the National Monument to coordinate acquisition efforts and maintain current acquisition priorities.
- 1.2. Acquisitions by BLM and USFS in the Monument should integrate the purpose of the National Monument legislation with the purpose of other federal laws and resulting plans, including the MSHCP/NCCP, the California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment, the San Bernardino National Forest Plan Revision, and the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indian's Habitat Conservation Plan.
- 1.3. Setting acquisition priorities should consider the key goals of protection of habitat, provision of trails and trailheads, providing access to the Monument consistent with the protection of the resource values, protection of cultural resources, protection of viewsheds, provision of educational and interpretive opportunities, and consolidation of public ownership to facilitate management
- 1.4. Monument staff should further develop an objective to create criteria on how to make such acquisition decisions. As a recommended starting point, Monument staff should consider the following in prioritizing acquisitions:

Strategic significance. As noted above, different agencies may have different priorities based on their different missions. Among factors that may be significant to one agency or another are biological resource values, such as lambing habitat or water sources for bighorn sheep; right of way needs for trails or other access purposes; implementing land exchange agreements; and cultural resource values. The MSHCP/NCCP will identify the areas with high biological value. The MSHCP/NCCP will also delineate trail alignments. The Monument has not been comprehensively surveyed for cultural resources, but there is an existing body of information that can help to assess the likelihood of cultural resources to occur in various areas.

Threat level. Areas within the Monument where there is a threat of development or a potential for a land use conflict are of high priority.

Partnership opportunities. Lands sometime become available for acquisition through Tax Sale Agreement with the County Tax Collector. Other lands may be offered as a donation or sale at below market value if the owner wishes to seek tax credits or tax deductions. Such opportunities enable acquisitions to be made at relatively little cost.

Funding availability. Various agencies have access to various funding sources that typically have restrictions as to where or for what purpose the funds can be used.

**ISSUE STATEMENT #2 – TRAIL & STRUCTURE MAINTENANCE**  
**How will the Monument maintain motorized and non-motorized trails**  
**and structures within the Monument?**

*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 2.1. Convene a Monument road inventory task force within the first six months of plan implementation to initiate a comprehensive road inventory process. All Monument road maintenance designations will be based on this initial road inventory. After completing the inventory, the task force should develop a trails and roads maintenance guidance document within the first year of plan implementation.
- 2.2. All designated roads in the Monument should be maintained in accordance with the Monument trails and roads maintenance guidance document and the comprehensive Monument road inventory and should be assessed on a biennial basis to determine the appropriateness of any changes in status based on visitation and use data.
- 2.3. Multiple road and trail types should be defined and maintained as appropriate throughout the Monument to accommodate various use levels and, where appropriate, motorized vehicle types.
- 2.4. All illegal roads/trails (as defined by BLM/Forest Service) should be closed and not maintained.
- 2.5. Legal roads should be maintained in a manner consistent with their current use.

*Non-Consensually Supported Recommendation*

- 2.6. All illegal roads should be closed and not maintained, including the Dunn Road.

**ISSUE STATEMENT #3 - INTERPRETATION**  
**How will the Monument provide education, interpretation, and information**  
**to allow for the use and enjoyment of the Monument?**

*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 3.1. Monument staff should encourage educational institutions to utilize the Monument for research and educational projects. Educators and students should have the opportunity to participate in research activities where appropriate.
- 3.2. Monument staff should work with local schools and museums to educate both visitors and local residents on the values of the Monument. Outreach efforts such as Monument-sponsored science publications and field visits should be incorporated into management programs to the extent possible.
- 3.3. Monument staff should help facilitate the transfer of research information to the public through periodic science forums and Monument-sponsored publications.

- 3.4. Upon completion of the Monument management plan, staff should expand the existing Internet site to provide educational information and materials.
- 3.5. Within the first year after completion of the Monument management plan, staff should identify and adequately sign the main entry points to the Monument and provide multi-lingual maps and information at said locations.
- 3.6. Periodically, staff should prepare and distribute a publication to advise the public about events occurring in and affecting the Monument.
- 3.7. Staff should develop a short (1-2 pages) flyer that provides a brief overview of the Monument. This flyer could be used at various public information kiosks.
- 3.8. Within the first year after completion of the Monument management plan, staff should coordinate with the American Automobile Club and various map makers to ensure that the Monument designation is represented on their products.
- 3.9. By 2004, staff should complete a Monument viewshed plan and GIS map layer.
- 3.10. Monument staff should work with communities, counties, State and other Federal agencies, and interested organizations in seeking nontraditional sources of funding including challenge cost-share programs, grants, in-kind contributions, and allowable fee systems to support specific interpretation projects needed to achieve the outreach-related objectives.
- 3.11. Monument staff should consider, where appropriate, contracting with private sector businesses, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, or state and local agencies to develop outreach materials.
- 3.12. Citizen and organizational volunteers should be encouraged to provide greater monitoring of resource conditions, interpretive and education programs, and to complete on-the ground developments for resource protection, effective land management, and human use and enjoyment.
- 3.13. Vista Point Overlook is an excellent example of an underutilized resource and the Monument should provide a variety of interpretive information regarding this and other sites.
- 3.14. Educate public and decision-makers concerning native vegetation (traditional uses of plants, medicinal values, food, crafts, tools, etc.) and non-native plants and plans to eradicate non-native species and re-vegetate/recover native vegetation. Develop and distribute a list of invasive plants that are discouraged for use in landscaping and decorative plantings.

*Non-Consensually Supported Recommendation*

- 3.15. Monument staff should prepare an appealing and exciting video to highlight the Monument and its educational resources. This video should be widely distributed to local schools, resorts, etc. and should be made available for public purchase. The video should also be used at the visitor center to show physically challenged visitors all areas within the Monument.



**ISSUE STATEMENT #4 – MULTIPLE USE & RESOURCE PROTECTION**  
**How can the Monument provide multiple recreation opportunities while balancing the protection and preservation of cultural, biological, geological, educational, and scientific resources?**

*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 4.1. Opportunities for campgrounds at both the upper and lower elevation limit of the Monument need to be explored so that people have a variety of camping opportunities. Some of these camping opportunities may allow road access to the campground; others might be walk-in or pack-in campgrounds with a preference for perimeter locations for developed facilities.
- 4.2. Where possible, wildlife viewing should be encouraged and sites should be appropriately designated by signage. An example would be in the La Quinta Cove where sheep viewing would be an appropriate activity.
- 4.3. The Monument should provide opportunities for exploration and self guidance and should continue to have an open, unregulated feel to recreational use.
- 4.4. Recreation uses shall be compatible with the conservation and preservation of the Monument.
- 4.5. New visitor centers should be located in already developed areas.
- 4.6. Hunting should continue as per California Department of Fish and Game regulations, except where there are safety concerns or other conflicts with Monument management.
- 4.7. Dispersed shooting should be prohibited within the Monument. Shooting may be allowed in certain designated areas.
- 4.8. Cross-country walking and equestrian travel should be allowed in any area where such activity is not detrimental to sensitive cultural, biological, and/or physical resources. This policy should be communicated on official Monument maps.
- 4.9. Cross-country travel for mountain bikes should be prohibited throughout the Monument. Mountain bicycles should not be allowed where they can cause safety problems with other users. Trails and roads for off-road bicycles need to be clearly identified on maps.
- 4.10. Trailhead access points should be designated on appropriate Monument maps and permanent signage should be provided at all access locations.
- 4.11. All visitor centers (Monument sites, tram area, etc.) need to be well stocked with appropriate information and individuals working those centers need to be provided an opportunity to learn first hand about the Monument.
- 4.12. All trails need to designate allowable user groups and appropriate signage should be developed to clearly identify allowable uses.
- 4.13. Monument agencies need to develop a usable, friendly, working partnership with trail user groups and local agencies to ensure efficient trail maintenance opportunities.

- 4.14. Current and future horse corral locations need to be clearly communicated on official Monument maps and these maps should be updated on a yearly basis.
- 4.15. A recreation task force of agency staff and public stakeholders should be convened on a yearly basis to discuss any emerging recreation trends and opportunities to accommodate and/or minimize such activities in the Monument.

*Non-Consensually Supported Recommendation*

- 4.16. Organized tours, including hiking, equestrian, and motorized guided tours should be encouraged where appropriate.

<p><b>ISSUE STATEMENT #5 – VISITOR TRACKING &amp; MANAGEMENT UPDATES</b> <b>How will the Monument monitor current and future use and modify management strategies as appropriate?</b></p>
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*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 5.1. Address the inconsistency between various agency's permit processes and formats and develop a standardized system and implement it throughout the entire Monument. Requiring permits for Monument visitation and recreational use should be minimized.
- 5.2. Permit applications should be waived where there is no reasonably efficient and practical way to receive a permit.
- 5.3. Provide boxes at trailheads for all recreational users to voluntarily register date and time of the activity, location, and number in party.
- 5.4. Public access points (with appropriate visitor information, parking opportunities, and visitation monitoring stations) need to be established in a priority manner along the Monument boundaries.
- 5.5. A Monument visitation task force (including all use providers such as tram representatives, tribal representatives, state and federal land managers, etc.) should meet on a yearly basis to develop and implement strategies to manage/direct visitor use. As part of this process, the task force should develop carrying capacities for sensitive areas within the Monument.

<p><b>ISSUE STATEMENT #6 – PRIVATE PROPERTY AND ACCESS</b> <b>How will the Monument address private property rights?</b></p>
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*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 6.1. As part of the environmental review on the proposed management plan, staff should complete an inventory of all private property and rights-of-ways within the Monument and assess what impacts, if any, the management objectives created.

- 6.2. The Monument should consider authorizing only one access route to private land parcels unless public safety or local ordinances warrant additional routes. Private land owners should be required to coordinate the development of access routes across public lands in order to prevent a proliferation of routes. Rights-of-way should only be allowed when necessary to exercise valid existing rights.
- 6.3. Need to work closely with private land owners both within and adjacent to the Monument to make sure that trespass issues are resolved and that private land owners know of the need to post signage on their lands allowing or not allowing visitor passage.

*Non-Consensually Supported Recommendation*

- 6.4. No new rights-of-ways for roads should be granted and no RS2477 rights of way should be issued within the Monument

**ISSUE STATEMENT #7 - CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**How can the Monument identify, protect, preserve and restore cultural resources while providing for recreation opportunities and management of resources?**  
**How can the Monument work to improve coordination and consultation with local tribes regarding management and tribal use of lands within the Monument?**  
**How can the Monument develop a common understanding and respect for cultural resources including ethnographic, archaeological and historic resources?**

*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 7.1. Determine cultural significance and integrity of known sites with the Monument with assistance from Native American consultants. Evaluate the Monument for cultural resource values by conducting a random survey of 3-5% of the Monument on Agua Caliente, USFS, and BLM lands (including some representative sites that fall on extreme slopes). Use this information to direct additional monitoring surveys. Then, every year, survey a fixed number of acres or geographic areas within the Monument to locate cultural and traditional use sites. Following survey, evaluate site for significance and recommend future action for each site found. Future actions may include the following:
  - Abandon and eliminate trails that impact sites.
  - Establish an appropriate buffer around sensitive area.
  - Restore damaged historical sites that can be restored.
  - Provide Alternative places to go.
  - Repair vandalized areas.
  - Hide sensitive areas.
  - Renaturalize locations.
- 7.2. Identify, document, record new sites and associated artifacts for protection/preservation with assistance of Native American consultants. Determine sites that require 'No Action' or 'Monitoring.'
- 7.3. Inventory existing roads and trails to determine impacts to previously unknown sites.

- 7.4. Develop a common understanding and respect for cultural resources, including ethnographic, archaeological and historic resources.
- 7.5. Monitor a minimum of 3 known sites a year, with at least one of those sites being along an existing recreational route or trail.
- 7.6. Develop “curation policy” with consultation with appropriate tribes in order to curate associated artifacts that are threatened to be determined mutually accepted agreeable repository in a facility that is federally recognized.
- 7.7. Develop a Monument policy to permit tribal members to legally collect and gather traditional materials within the Monument.
- 7.8. Facilitate cooperation and consultation with and among tribes regarding management of the Monument lands by encouraging local tribes, agencies, and organizations to work together to interpret and educate the local public about the significance of the Monument, archeological and historic resources, available programs, cultural and historic site protection laws. Let tribes decide the number of times per year that individual tribe to USFS/BLM meetings will occur through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU should identify the Agua Caliente Tribe as the liaison to aide in tribal involvement with Monument and information sharing. Identify a tribal delegate to attend the quarterly management working meeting.
- 7.9. Organize a standing working group with a goal to advise and work with Monument staff. The working group should meet at least quarterly to discuss methods for ensuring protection and confidentiality of the cultural area as sacred sites and traditional use areas. This working group should be included in the stewardship program.
- 7.10. Include tribal members in designing visitor center displays.
- 7.11. Establish clear definitions of terms used (i.e., historic, prehistoric, sacred, traditional use, etc). Promote consistent use of terms for all users/managers of the Monument.
- 7.12. Develop cultural resources research plan to include monitoring, surveys, research projects, involving tribes, students, local schools, colleges, other interested people (i.e., archeological groups).
- 7.13. Develop a program for public interpretation, education, and environmental awareness for the Monument, wherein cultural and ethnographical resources are given equal footing with other resources in the program. Create a Cultural Site Stewardship Program, utilizing tribal members and other qualified volunteers as site stewards. Utilize tribal members as interpreters, guides and story-tellers.
- 7.14. Design educationally-oriented brochures, pamphlets, monographs, web-pages and other works of popular and technical nature, emphasizing the relevance, fragility and other values of cultural and historic resources to be made available to the public.
- 7.15. Protect and preserve a representative example of the full array of cultural resources for the benefit of present and future generations. Share the value of knowing how people lived, ate, etc. to

provide a sense of feeling/sense of lifestyle. Create a prototypical village site to educate the public. Direct visitors to targeted specific cultural sites (e.g., Dead Indian Canyon).

**ISSUE STATEMENT #8 - BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**  
**How will the Monument management plan address biological and ecological resources?**

*Consensually Supported Recommendation*

- 8.1. The Monument will tier to the actions proposed through the MSHCP/NCCP, San Bernardino National Forest Plan Revision, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indian's Habitat Conservation Plan, and the Coachella Valley California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment concerning the management of biological species on Federal lands within the Monument boundary once the Records of Decision for those plans are signed. Actions undertaken by USFS and BLM will be consistent with the Biological Opinions provided by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the other land use plans in process.

*Non-Consensually Supported Recommendation*

- 8.2. The adverse impacts to Bighorn Sheep and other threatened and endangered species should be taken into account and consultation with the appropriate recovery team and wildlife biologists should be made a priority in the development of the Monument management plan

**ISSUE STATEMENT #9 – HIGHWAY 74**  
**How can the Monument provide safe passage for vehicles on Hwy 74 through the Monument while also providing safe interpretive opportunities along the route?**

*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 9.1. Monument staff should undertake a coordinated study with Caltrans to determine where appropriate pullouts along Highway 74 should be located and how to keep all pullout areas clean and tidy.
- 9.2. Planning and funding activities should be coordinated between Monument management and Caltrans to the greatest extent possible.
- 9.3. Visitor center(s) should provide information regarding road safety issues.
- 9.4. Trailhead in the Pinyon Flats area, the BLM visitor center, and the Pinyon area overlook are all underutilized and signage should be developed to encourage use of these sites.

**ISSUE STATEMENT #10 – MANAGEMENT OF PESTS**  
**How can the Monument manage and control pests,**  
**including exotic and invasive species and noxious weeds?**

*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 10.1. Approach various organizations and agencies to see if the Monument could serve as a model or test area for various strategies for exotic and invasive species eradication.
- 10.2. Work to control and eliminate salt cedar and fountain grass as quickly as possible. Post signs including photographs with a “if you spot this let us know” message so that Monument staff have a variety of early warning systems to identify new colonies of invasive plants.
- 10.3. Within one year of completion of the Monument management plan, develop a plan for eradication of noxious weeds and invasive species within critical viewsheds in coordination with Tribal, Federal, State, local agencies, California Native Plant Society, and the California Exotic Pest Plant Council. Eradication should begin in the most critical areas (e.g., threatened and endangered species habitat and road edges) and then be expanded into other areas.
- 10.4. Within one year of completion of the Monument management plan, develop an ecological inventory that identifies indigenous plants within the Monument and areas conducive to revegetation with indigenous species.
- 10.5. Provide annual monitoring of progress of eradication/ re-vegetation programs.
- 10.6. Non-profit organizations, citizens and user groups that have adequate resources and expertise could enter into cooperative agreements to assist in the management of public lands in the Monument. Assistance could include, but would not be limited to, resource monitoring, site cleanups, and the construction of authorized projects.
- 10.7. Unless prohibited for reasons such as Bighorn sheep habitat, State Park lands, or other legal reasons, dogs should be allowed under “responsible owner control” throughout the Monument. Dog owners should be responsible for cleaning up after their animals and service dogs (seeing-eye dogs, etc.) should be allowed as per local, State, and Federal laws.
- 10.8. Feral dogs should be removed from the Monument, especially in Bighorn sheep habitat.

**ISSUE STATEMENT #11 – PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**How will public safety be coordinated within the Monument?**

*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 11.1. To increase visitor's knowledge regarding safe access within the Monument, accurate, easy to read maps and brochures should be made available through the visitor center(s), BLM offices, USFS ranger stations, State parks ranger stations, the Tram, and the Indian Canyons. It is important that materials depict current conditions and be easy to understand.
- 11.2. Clear signage should be provided along all routes and, especially, along routes that will take hikers onto private property and restricted use areas.
- 11.3. Work with applicable agencies in the implementation of a Coordinated Emergency Fire Plan for the Monument, including consistent fire closure dates, coordinated response, access for emergency purposes, placement and use of radio repeater towers, and fire information/signage.
- 11.4. Prepare and disseminate information to the public about known hazards within the Monument.
- 11.5. The Monument should complete a separate Fire Management Plan to address fuels management and other fire suppression activities that prevents adverse impacts on Bighorn sheep and other natural resources.
- 11.6. Agencies with law enforcement responsibility within the Monument should meet at least annually to share information and coordinate response to significant law enforcement issues.

**ISSUE STATEMENT #12 – UTILITIES AND RIGHTS-OF-WAYS**  
**How will the Monument address utilities and rights-of-ways?**

*Consensually Supported Recommendations*

- 12.1. New utility routes and antennas sites should be discouraged and alternate routes/sites outside of the Monument should be suggested wherever possible.
- 12.2. The Monument should work with local communities and utility providers to identify short and long-term community needs for infrastructure which could affect Monument lands and resources.